

## SOCIETY NEWS

### THE SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

For the first time the Annual Meeting of the Aero Medical Society was held at Bangalore from the 31st October to the 2nd November 1960. It was organized by H. Q. Training Command. The late Air Marshal S. Mukerjee inaugurated the Conference. It was presided over by the D. M. S. (Air), Air Cdre. B. L. Kapur. Among the distinguished invitees who attended, were Sir C. V. Raman, Air Marshal A. M. Engineer DFC, Air Vice Marshal Ranjan Dutt Vr. C., Major General S. P. Bhatia D.M.S. (Army) and Surgeon Cdre. A. K. Dev D.M.S. (Navy). Over sixty medical officers of the Air Force, all the local Army medical officers, and some Naval medical officers were present.

#### *Scientific Sessions*

These were held on the 31st October and the 1st November 1960. The *piece de resistance* was an illuminating lecture on "The Visual Mechanisms", delivered in his inimitable style, by the Noble Laureate, Bharat Ratna Sir C. V. Raman F. R. S., at the auditorium of the Raman Institute, on the evening of the opening day. In this lecture, the celebrated scientist took the opportunity to present some of his new concepts on the theory of colour vision; it was indeed an honoured privilege, for it is rarely that he interrupts his busy schedule to speak on such occasions. The following scientific papers were presented:

- "The Present Position of Aviation Medicine in the I.A.F."  
*By Gp. Capt. M. M. Shrinagesh.*
- "A Review of Ophthalmic Examinations Carried Out at A. F. Central Medical Establishment."  
*By Sqn. Ldr. T. G. Jones.*
- "Some Psychological Aspects of High Speed Flying."  
*By Sqn. Ldr. H. Lakshminarayan.*
- "Nutritional Problems in Aviation."  
*By Shri C. S. Nair.*
- "Blood Sugar Studies in Air Force Aircrew."  
*By Sqn. Ldr. P. S. Bajwa.*
- "Hyperventilation—A Cause of Inefficiency in the Air."  
*By Sqn. Ldr. S. K. Mukerji.*
- "Pilot Error Accidents in Vampire Aircraft in the I. A. F."  
*By Sqn. Ldr. A. K. Basu.*
- "Aviation Medicine Research and Teaching."  
*By Sqn. Ldr. B. Bhatia.*
- "Simulation of Weightlessness."  
*By Shri C. A. Verghese.*
- "Mechanism of Head Injuries and the Development of an Outer Protective Helmet."  
*By Sqn. Ldr. P. Dharamraj*

The programme included an instructive visit on the 1st of November to the School of Aviation Medicine, demonstrating the recent reorganisation, with its trend towards applied research on practical problems of Aviation Medicine; following this, visiting officers were provided the opportunity to go round the various factories and establishments of Hindustan Aircraft Limited.

#### *Administrative and Business Sessions*

The 2nd of November was entirely devoted to the S. M. O's Administrative Conference and a discussion on the business affairs of the Society.

#### *Social Activities*

The Seventh Annual S. M. O's Dinner was held at the Officers' Mess of H. Q. Training Command on the 31st October 1960. It was attended by the late Air Marshal S. Mukerjee, Air Marshal A. M. Engineer DFC, Air Vice Marshal Ranjan Dutt Vr. C, Major General S. P. Bhatia, Surgeon Cdre A. K. Dev and Gp. Capt. V. R. Damle. By kind permission of the Station Commander, A. F. Station, Jalahalli, the I. A. F. band was in attendance. On the following evening an informal party was held. It was well attended and proved a very happy occasion.

From all accounts the maiden attempt of the Aero Medical Society in holding its Annual Meeting in Bangalore, amid its scientific and industrial background, was a great success. It is sincerely hoped that this is only the beginning, and that the Society will meet in Bangalore frequently in the future.

#### APPOINTMENTS, POSTINGS, ETC.

##### *H. Q. Training Command.*

The post of P. M. O. H. Q. Training Command was upgraded from Wing Commander to Group Captain w.e.f. 6th September, 1960. This appointment was filled by Gp. Capt. V.R. Damle, on transfer from the Army. We welcome him to our midst.

##### *School of Aviation Medicine, Bangalore.*

The post of O. C. Air Force School of Aviation Medicine was upgraded from the rank of Wing Commander to Group Captain w.e.f. 6th September, 1960, and Gp. Capt. Ajit Nath assumed command.

##### *Interservices Postings/Deputation/Study Leave/Flying Training*

Wg. Cdr. K. N. Kothanath (2106), Classified Specialist in Psychiatry, posted to Military Hospital, Poona, as Adviser in Psychiatry, on 16th August, 1961.

Wg. Cdr. J. H. F. Manekshaw (2691), Classified Specialist in Aviation Medicine, posted to the Office of the Air Adviser High Commission of India in U. K., in April, 1961.

Wg. Cdr. D. N. Maniktala (3434), posted to the office of the D. T. D. & P. (Air) as D. D. (Med.) w.e.f. 22nd March, 1961.

Sqn. Ldr. S. P. Verma (3722) successfully completed Flying Training and was awarded "Wings". The Officer is now undergoing operational flying training.

Sqn. Ldr. K. K. Majumder (3896) returned from U. K. and posted to A.F. School of Aviation Medicine, in August, 1961.

Flt. Lt. J. N. Singha (4967) completed one year study leave from 30th July, 1960 to 1st August, 1961 and obtained the D.O.M.S. from the Aligarh University.

Flt. Lt. P. M. Sundaram (4857) was awarded the Chief of Air Staff's Silver Medal, being the best student of Primary Aviation Medicine Course during the year 1960.

Flt. Lt. (now Sqn. Ldr.) K. C. Sinha (4856) availed 24 months study leave and obtained the M. D. from Patna University.

#### FELICITATIONS

We congratulate our ex-President and D.M.S. (Air) Air Vice Marshal S.P. Bhatia on his promotion to Lieutenant General, on the assumption of the appointment of Director General Armed Forces Medical Services. We wish him every success and look forward to his continued patronage.

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